

## Senate Resolution 31

By: Senators Heath of the 31st, Bulloch of the 11th, Butterworth of the 50th, Goggans of the 7th, Seabaugh of the 28th and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing January 15, 2009, as "Sportsmen's Day at the Capitol"; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has a great heritage of hunting and fishing that is enjoyed  
3 by 1.1 million Georgia residents each year; and
- 4 WHEREAS, hunting and fishing generates \$198 million in state and local tax revenue  
5 annually; directly supports 31,000 jobs in Georgia; and has a total economic impact of \$3  
6 billion annually; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Georgia is now the number one hunting destination state in the nation; and
- 8 WHEREAS, license fees from hunters and anglers are the primary source for wildlife  
9 management area land acquisition in Georgia totaling over 100,000 acres since the late  
10 1980's and the annual lease payments on approximately 225,000 acres of wildlife areas.  
11 These are natural lands which not only provide hunting and fishing opportunities to Georgia  
12 citizens but are also used by bird-watchers, hikers, campers, and educational groups; and
- 13 WHEREAS, license fees and excise taxes from hunters and anglers have funded the  
14 successful restoration of white-tailed deer, wild turkey, black bear, bobwhite quail and wood  
15 ducks in Georgia and the stocking of millions of game fish in lakes and rivers all over the  
16 state; and
- 17 WHEREAS, the sportsmen and sportswomen of Georgia and the conservation organizations  
18 that they support privately with millions of dollars each year work to preserve our State's  
19 natural lands and wildlife which includes nongame as well as game animals.
- 20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
21 recognize January 15, 2009, as "Sportsmen's Day at the Capitol."

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
23 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Legislative Sportsmen's  
24 Caucus.